

# PK WISE CHOICES

## MAKE A DIFFERENCE

### THE INSIDE RUNNING

**All great movements start with one person. A person with a passion for change, a vision for how things could be better; a person with compassion for others.**

Even a small change actually requires these same qualities. We see this all the time at Promise Keepers as we relate to men who are organising groups to come to Events and men who are effectively building Ministry with Men in their church.

The key to long-term success however, is that although it starts with one man, it grows to team leadership. A team expands the depth of a ministry so that it does not stand or fall on the performance, wellbeing or ability of one individual.

Promise Keepers is going nationwide this month with workshops on Ministry with Men – *Developing Spiritual Champions*. Even if you are the only person who cares about Men’s Ministry in your church, then come along alone! But better still, bring a friend or a team and get inspired! Everyone can do something and be an agent of change!

*John*

John Subritzky

**H**ave you wondered how you can go forward personally and how you can also significantly impact others?

Five years ago Curt came to a place in his journey where he realised that the unmet needs he had in his life were the same as those of other men. His church had nothing specific to offer to men at that time. As a result he decided to do something. Curt got involved in organising Men’s Small Groups as a core part of a comprehensive Men’s Ministry. He developed a team to help carry the load because he says, it will always require effort and energy and it will often be opposed.

Recently Curt has focused on seeing men released to live out who they are purposed to be in God, not just living a nice safe life. He is helping them discover their heart and who they are in God by using the *Wild at Heart* DVD series as a catalyst for conversation. They have gone deep so they have only covered five DVDs in a whole year. But through this they have all been – at times – bluntly challenged and grown spiritually. This has occurred in an environment where there have been opportunities for mentoring and discipleship that have been nailed to the reality of day-to-day life. To get away from only doing meetings they are currently planning to do a three day wilderness tramp together.

Curt says he believes that three years ago God clearly called him to explore the father heart of God, the fear of God and honour. Out of this has come the opportunity to minister to others.

**What calling has God put on your heart?**

### A MOVING EXPERIENCE

**W**hen my wife, Chrissy, asked me to rally the men of our couples group to help move a family, I reluctantly agreed (because I hate to help move). Who enjoys lugging heavy refrigerators and tons of boxes, especially when it’s somebody else’s junk? But Chrissy had become acquainted with Tina (the wife), and she saw an opportunity for us to meet a need.

Tina’s husband, Hans, was certainly grateful when so many helping hands showed up that Saturday morning. We moved everything, including their redwood Jacuzzi, to their new address just a mile away. While moving isn’t my first choice for male bonding (I’ll take a half-day mountain-bike trip any day), there’s something about carrying furniture and lifting boxes that bonds people. And the pepperoni pizza party afterward didn’t hurt either.

Despite my bad attitude regarding the move, by the end of the day I felt that we were beginning a special friendship.

The next time I ran into Hans was a month later. I asked him how the move finished up and then mentioned how I thought God used the time to bring us together that day. When I said that, his eyes immediately filled with tears.

*“Hans, are you okay?”*

*“Kenny,” he choked out, “I was so alone.”*

– Kenny Luck in *Every Man, God’s Man - Men of Integrity*, March/April 2009.

**My Response:** How could I help another man break out of his isolation?



# What is Ministry with Men and why is it important?

Think Men's Ministry and most people picture a men's breakfast or a social activity. It's all about events, preferably events with food, isn't it?

## Wrong!

Men's Ministry is not about doing things or solving problems. Successful Ministry with Men is all about men building friendships and maturing as Christians. The challenge is to move beyond mere acquaintance with other men at church.

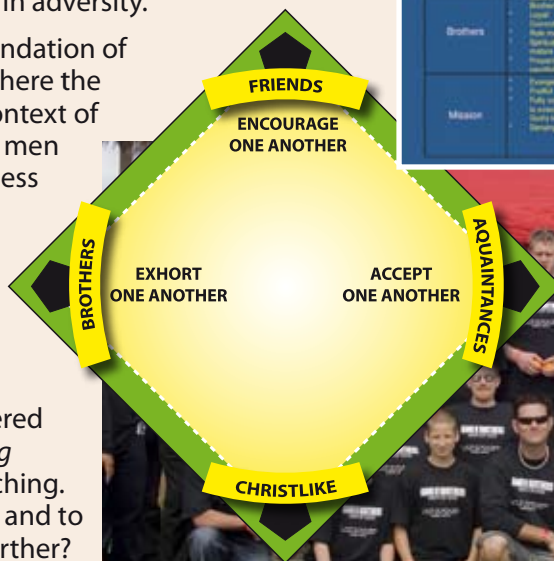
Many men feel isolated. Their jobs keep them busy and life is lived like a race from one thing to another. Some even have a sense of being abandoned at a crucial point in their life. Jesus calls us to be more than acquaintances or even friends. He calls us to be brothers. Men of courage who will stand back to back, shoulder to shoulder for the cause of Christ, even in adversity.

What does this look like in a church then? The foundation of a thriving Men's Ministry is Men's Small Groups, where the real issues of life can be addressed safely in the context of genuine friendships. Other activities should draw men in closer, focus them on issues and provide a process to grow spiritually. Each activity should have a mission component and an outward focus. It's all about human being, not human doing!

Promise Keepers has developed a simple grid of activities and outcomes so that everything can be targeted to the appropriate audience and achieve the desired goal. All this and more is covered on the Promise Keepers website, at the *Developing Spiritual Champions* workshops and through Coaching. Promise Keepers can help you to grow personally and to reach out to others. Is it time for you to step up further?



Activities & Outcomes Grid					
	Characteristics	Mindset	Friendships / Biblical Input	Church Events	Outcomes
Acquaintance	Passive Uninvolved Lacking commitment	It's all about me	Weak Superficial	Social Events Prayer Bible Study	Convert
Friends	Interested in others Healthy but lacking depth Lacking unity Lacking love	It's all about my needs	Developing Lacking deeper relationship	Pr & Bible Service Training	Follower
Brothers	Word of Love Healthy Healthy Healthy Healthy Healthy	It's all about them	Steady Solid Solid Solid Solid	Small Group Training Mentoring	Disciple
Mission	Engaged Fully committed Fully committed Fully committed Fully committed	It's all about Him	Truly Solid Solid Solid Solid	Witnessing Evangelism Evangelism Evangelism Evangelism	Leader



## Developing Spiritual Champions

WORKSHOPS

Leaders from around the globe are anticipating that 2009 will be a tough year.

Despite adversity, at Promise Keepers we expect it to be a year full of opportunities for the continuing spiritual transformation of men. Promise Keepers surveys in churches across NZ show the number one desire of men is to grow spiritually. You can be part of the answer for men in your

church who want their lives to have significance. By helping to build Men's Ministry you can help others to build real friendships and to grow spiritually.

Whether Men's Ministry in your church is just beginning or has been running for a while, our expert Coaches will work with you to take it to the next level at the *Developing Spiritual Champions* workshops.

Even if you are unsure about what part you can play, this workshop will broaden your insight as to what is possible and how to achieve it.

See the *Developing Spiritual Champions* brochure and the Promise Keepers website for more information.



DEVELOPING  
SPIRITUAL  
CHAMPIONS

